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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/016,984
Applicant: Dykes
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TC/A.U.: 3731
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Customer No.: 31,886

For: **PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS**

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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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November 12, 2004

Date

Henry L. Ehrlich

Name (Signature)

Henry L. Ehrlich

Name (Printed)

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office action of March 7, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.